

STATINTL

## WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Professor and Tycoon:  
A Clash of Viewpoints

(Editor's Note—While Drew Pearson is on a brief vacation, his column is being written by his associate, Jack Anderson.)

WASHINGTON, April 30—This is the tale of a history professor and an oil tycoon.

The professor is red-haired, bushy-browed Dr. Larry Gara, whose conscience keeps getting him in trouble. A devout Quaker, he spent three years in jail during World War II for refusing to register for the draft, drew another jail sentence in 1949 (later revoked) for allegedly urging a student to evade the draft.

The tycoon is Sun Oil's chief, J. Howard Pew, a Rock-of-Gibraltar conservative, whose convictions also get him into hot water.

Gara had been teaching at tiny Grove City (Pa.) College, which Pew endows and dominates. Pew not only runs the board of trustees but had loaded it with relatives.

Inevitably the views of the pacifist professor and the militant tycoon clashed. Pew didn't like Gara's liberal views.

This was followed by the sudden appearance of two investigators in the Grove City environs sneaking into Gara's activities.

One has now been identified as John Frank, formerly an agent for the late Dictator Rafael Trujillo of the Dominican Republic, more recently accused of "bugging" an El Paso gas company suite at Washington's Mayflower Hotel.

The other private eye remains a mystery man, identified only as M. M. Murphy.

Shortly after they finished their investigation, a cryptic telegram arrived at Grove City College from J. Howard Pew. Addressed to Dr. J. Stanley Harker, college president, the wire said simply: "Fire Gara."

The red-haired professor is no longer teaching at Pew's college.

Note—Neither Pew nor Harker could be reached by this column for comment. Harker's office reported he was out for lunch. Later, after learning who was calling, the office claimed Dr. Harker was on a road trip and couldn't be contacted.

## Mail-Go-Round

This column receives thousands of letters from readers who ask questions, raise issues, and report information of public interest. Here is a sampling:

"I am a service wife, and I am sick of the substandard schools the army provides for our children overseas. Won't someone please take an interest?"—Mrs. J.D. Munich, Germany.

ANSWER: Other service people have complained that the schools are substandard and the teachers often unfit. Sometimes classes are conducted in converted warehouses and other makeshift quarters. Most of them have no facilities to serve hot lunches, and the science classes, laboratories, and shops are short of equipment. The classes are also overcrowded, forcing many schools to hold half-day sessions. The Armed Forces Education Committee, which advises the Defense Department on education, will investigate the situation. One possibility: the schools may be turned over to the Office of Education to be run by civilian authorities.

"I understand that Jackie Kennedy begged her stepfather, Hugh Auchincloss, not to sell their Merrywood estate to real estate promoters. The 46-acre estate has now been rezoned over the objections of the local residents for the construction of three 17-story apartments."—Mrs. E. H. McLean, Va.

ANSWER: The First Lady was asked to intervene with her stepfather to stop the real estate deal. She delicately declined, explaining that he never listened to her advice on business matters.

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